

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (previously presented): A method of copy-protecting a digital audio-visual signal, comprising the steps of:

- (a) encoding the digital audio-visual signal to obtain an encoded signal;
- (b) converting the encoded signal into a copy protected signal using a copy protection function that utilizes a copy protection data signal to prevent using the digital audio-visual signal without access to the copy protection data signal;
- (c) scrambling the copy protected signal to obtain a scrambled signal; and
- (d) transmitting the scrambled signal and said copy protection data signal to a receiver for subsequent recovery of said digital audio-visual signal.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the step of transmitting comprises the step of transmitting the scrambled signal and said copy protection data signal as a single signal to the receiver.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The method of claim 3, wherein the step of transmitting further comprises combining the scrambled signal and said copy protection data signal into said single signal.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The method of claim 3, further comprising the steps of:

- (a) receiving said single signal in a receiver;
- (b) removing said copy protection data signal from the single signal, and storing copy protection data represented by the copy protection data signal in a memory device;
- (c) recovering said scrambled signal from the single signal;
- (d) descrambling the recovered scrambled signal to regain said copy protected signal;
- (e) reconvert the regained copy protected signal back into said encoded signal using an inverse copy protection function, wherein the inverse function utilizes said stored copy protection data; and
- (f) decoding the encoded signal to recover said digital audio-visual signal.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

- (a) descrambling the scrambled signal to recover said copy protected signal;
- (b) reconvert the recovered copy protected signal back into said encoded signal using an inverse copy protection function, wherein the inverse function utilizes the copy protection data from said copy protection data signal; and
- (c) decoding the converted encoded signal to recover said digital audio-visual signal.

Claim 7 (previously presented): A method of recovering an audio-visual signal from a digital signal including a scrambled signal and a copy protection data signal representing copy protection data, comprising the steps of:

- (a) extracting said data signal from the digital signal;
- (b) storing the copy protection data from said copy protection data signal in a memory device;
- (c) extracting the scrambled signal from the digital signal;
- (d) descrambling the scrambled signal to recover a copy protected signal;
- (e) reconverting the copy protected signal into an encoded signal using an inverse copy protection function, wherein the inverse function utilizes said stored copy protection data; and
- (f) decoding the encoded signal to recover said audio-visual signal,
wherein the copy protected signal prevents use of the audio-visual signal without access to the copy protection data.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A system for copy-protecting a digital audio-visual signal, comprising:

- (a) an encoder configured to encode the digital audio-visual signal to obtain an encoded signal;
- (b) a converter configured to convert the encoded signal into a copy protected signal using a computer program product comprising a computer usable medium for copy protection including a computer readable program, wherein the computer readable program when executed on a computer causes the computer to:~~a copy protection function~~

~~that utilizes~~ use a copy protection data signal representing copy protection data to prevent using the digital audio-visual signal without access to the copy protection data;

(c) a scrambler ~~configured to for scrambling~~ scramble the copy protected signal into a scrambled signal; and

(d) a transmitter ~~configured to for transmitting~~ transmit the scrambled signal and the copy protection data signal to a receiver for subsequent recovery of said digital audio-visual signal.

Claim 9 (canceled)

Claim 10 (previously presented): The system of claim 8, further comprising a combiner for combining the scrambled signal and said data signal into said single signal, wherein the transmitter transmits said single signal to the receiver.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The system of claim 8, wherein the transmitter transmits the scrambled signal and said copy protection data signal as a single signal to the receiver.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The system of claim 11, further comprising:

(a) a receiver ~~for configured to receiving~~ receive said single signal in a receiver;

(b) a processor including a computer program product comprising a computer usable medium including a computer readable program, wherein the computer readable program when executed on the processor causes the processor to: ~~for:~~ (1)

~~removing~~~~remove~~ said copy protection data signal from the single signal, and ~~storing~~~~store~~ the copy protection data in a memory device, and (2) ~~recovering~~~~recover~~ said scrambled signal from the single signal;

(c) a descrambler ~~configured to for descrambling~~descramble the recovered scrambled signal to regain said copy protected signal;

(d) a reconverter ~~configured to for converting~~ convert the regained copy protected signal back into said encoded signal using an inverse copy protection function, wherein the inverse function utilizes said stored copy protection data; and

(e) a decoder ~~for decoding~~configured to decode the encoded signal to recover said digital audio-visual signal.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The system of claim 8, further comprising:

(a) a descrambler ~~for descrambling~~configured to descramble the scrambled signal to recover said copy protected signal;

(b) a reconverter ~~for converting~~configured to convert the recovered copy protected signal back into said encoded signal using an inverse copy protection function, wherein the inverse function utilizes the copy protection data; and

(c) a decoder ~~for decoding~~configured to decode the converted encoded signal to recover said digital audio-visual signal.

Claim 14 (previously presented): A system for recovering an audio-visual signal from a digital signal including a scrambled signal and a copy protection data signal representing copy protection data, the system comprising:

(a) a processor for: (1) removing said copy protection data signal from the digital signal, and storing the copy protection data in a memory device, and (2) recovering said scrambled signal from the digital signal;

(b) a descrambler for descrambling the recovered scrambled signal to recover a copy protected signal;

(c) a reconverter for converting the recovered copy protected signal back into said encoded signal using an inverse copy protection function, wherein the inverse function utilizes said stored copy protection data; and

(d) a decoder for decoding the encoded signal to recover said audio-visual signal, wherein the copy protected signal prevents use of the audio-visual signal without access to the copy protection data.

Claims 15–43 (canceled)

Claim 44 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the copy protected signal cannot be useably viewed, displayed, copied or recorded without access to the copy protection data.

Claim 45 (previously presented): The method of claim 7, wherein the copy protected signal cannot be useably viewed, displayed, copied or recorded without access to the copy protection data.

Claim 46 (previously presented): The system of claim 8, wherein the copy protected signal cannot be useably viewed, displayed, copied or recorded without access to the copy protection data.

Claim 47 (previously presented): The system of claim 14, wherein the copy protected signal cannot be useably viewed, displayed, copied or recorded without access to the copy protection data.